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UNCLE SAM'S FOREST RANGER #519

PROGRAM TITLE

SUSTAINING - NATIONAL FARM & HOME HOUR

ADVERTISER

AGENCY

WRITER

THURSDAY, JANUARY 21, 1943

DAY & DATE

11:30 - 12:00 AM CWT BLUE

TIME

PRODUCTION NOTES

CHARACTERS

CAST

JIM - HARVEY HAYS

JERRY - JOHN LARKIN

BESS - KATHERINE CARD

MARY - LUCILE HUSTING

MRS. HATCHER - LAURETTE
PHILLBRANDT

SOUND

REMARKS

10.74
MASTER Attached as broadcast:

This copy represents as accurately as possible the program. All alterations made in dramatic and/or musical content are contained herein.

Orchestra Leader

Production Director

Announcer

Agency Producer or Announcer

BLUE NETWORK COMPANY

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Production Director

Director

Executive Producer or Announcer

Announcer

ANNOUNCER: Uncle Sam's Forest Rangers!

MUSIC: THEME

ANNOUNCER: Today, Uncle Sam's forest Rangers start their twelfth year on the air as a regular feature of the National Farm and Home Hour. In the past eleven years the Forest Rangers have brought us more than 500 programs devoted to the cause of forest conservation and dedicated to the idea of wise and proper use of our Nation's forest resource. For the years ahead - well - with our country at war, each passing day find all of us coming closer to full realization of what our forests mean, right now, to the total war job; and what they will mean, in the future, to the welfare of every man, woman and child in the country. So the job that lies ahead for Uncle Sam's Forest Rangers and all of us is clear; to keep informed as to the true picture of forestry in America and, while providing for our war job every stick of timber that's actually needed for a speedy victory, to keep plugging for good forestry and logging practices as against wasteful, careless and destructive practices in our forests. Our scene, as usual, is the Pine Cone Ranger Station where, today, we find that Bess and Mary have just returned from what appears to have been an indignation meeting of the Winding Creek Ladies' Club. Jim and Jerry are more than a little interested in what the ladies had to say, it seems, and well, here they are --

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and well, here they are --

JERRY: (FADING IN - AROUSED) Well, of all the half-baked, unreasonable cook-eyed ideas I ever heard those..

MARY: Jerry!

BESS: I understand how you feel, Jerry, but, well, Mrs. Hatcher directed most of her remarks against our Pine Cone National Forest, as I've already told you, and..

JIM: But why, Bess? Why did she blast away at the Pine Cone? What'd the Pine Cone ever do to her?

BESS: Nothing, Jim, but that's not the point. Mrs Hatcher's theme was patriotism, remember, with the accent on getting out wood for war. She knows of course, that the Pine Cone, like all National Forests, is managed on a sustained yield basis, with the idea of having timber for future needs.

MARY: But that was her main point, Mr. Robbins. She said that now that we're at war, such ideas as sustained yield should be tossed overboard. We've got to win this war, she said, and if our boys are giving their very lives why should we be concerned about cutting trees? She certainly did go strong on that point.

JIM: Uh huh. And she's right in a way.

JERRY: Hey! What's that, Jim? You go along with her?

(READING IN - AROUSED) Well, of all the half-baked
unreasonable cock-eyed ideas I ever heard those.

JERRY:

Jerry!

MARY:

I understand how you feel, Jerry, but, well, Mrs.

HESS:

directed most of her remarks against our Pine Grove

National Forest, as I've already told you, and...

JIM:

But why, Bess? Why did she blast away at the Pine

What's the Pine Grove ever do to her?

BESS:

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there was patrolling, remember, with the school of

getting out wood for war. She knows of course, the

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JIM:

Oh huh. And she's right in a way.

JERRY:

Hey! What's that, Jim? You go along with her?

JIM: Yes, Jerry. To the extent that there's no comparison between the life of a soldier lad and that of a tree, or a million trees for that matter. She ought to know that if it was really necessary the Forest Service would be the first to advocate cutting every single living tree, big and small, to win this war?

MARY: But it's not necessary to do that, Mr. Robbins.

JIM: (WORKING UP) No, Mary, it certainly is not. There's altogether too much waste and downright mis-use of our forests in the name of war. It's time people realized that it isn't necessary to destroy our forests in order to meet our war needs.

JERRY: That's the stuff, Jim. That's more like it.

BESS: You don't mean to say that what Mrs. Hatcher said is true...

JIM: Bess, I'm surprised at you, Good gravy, you know we're doin' more timber cutting on the Pine Cone than we ever did before. Now don't you?

JERRY: Hey! I just thought of something. You, Mary...and Mrs. Robbins..you two weren't taken in by what this Mrs. Hatcher, said, were you?

MARY: Well, no, but she mentioned a lot of figures she's picked up that Mrs. Robbins and I couldn't argue about and..

JIM: What kind of figures, Mary?

Yes, Jerry. To the extent that there's no comparison between the life of a soldier and that of a civilian or a million trees for that matter. She ought to know that it is really necessary the Forest Service would be the first to advocate cutting every single living tree, big and small, to win this war?

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That's the story, Jim. That's more like it. You don't mean to say that what Mrs. Hatcher said is true...

Yes, I'm surprised at you, Good Gray, you know damn well more timber cutting on the Pine Cone than ever did before. Now don't you?

Yes! I just thought of something. You, Mary... Mrs. Robbins, you two weren't taken in by what the Mrs. Hatcher said, were you?

Well, no, but she mentioned a lot of figures she picked up that Mrs. Robbins and I couldn't argue about and...

What kind of figures, Mary?

JIM:

MARY:

JIM:

JERRY:

HESS:

JIM:

JERRY:

MARY:

JIM:

MARY: Oh, all about timber production..how much the country needs and how in some cases it is falling short of those needs and, well, figures like that.

BESS: Yes, Jim. The ladies were so impressed by Mrs. Hatcher's talk that they were all for drawing up a resolution then and there..

JERRY: Protesting against the Rangers - that's us, Jim - holding out timber in the National Forest, huh?

MARY: Yes, but Mrs. Robbins and I were so violently opposed to anything like that before we had more information that the President appointed a committee to take up the matter with Mr. Robbins.

JERRY: And this Mrs. Hatcher is on the committee, huh? Whew.

BESS: Mrs. Hatcher, Mary and I. We make up the committee representing both sides of the argument. And Mrs. Hatcher is really a fine person.

JIM: That's fair enough. When does this session take place?

BESS: I hope you don't mind, Jim, but the ladies were so upset I thought it ought to be real soon. So I suggested tomorrow morning.

JIM: (HEARTILY) Good enough. Tomorrow morning it is, and I hope Mrs. Hatcher doesn't mind if I have some figures at hand (FADE) too..

MUSIC: INTERLUDE..

VOICE: (WAY OFF) Timber-r-r! (SOUND OF TREE CRASHING, OFF)

SOUND OF CHOPPING AND SAWING, OCCASIONAL TOOT OF STEAM WHISTLE,
SUSTAIN IN BACKGROUND

JIM: Did you see that tree go down over there, Mrs. Hatcher?
Another tree going to war.

MRS. H: Yes, it was quite a sight..Mr. Robbins, I can't tell
you how much it has meant to me to come out here..
right out here in the forest..and see these things
for myself.

JIM: And I haven't been going too fast for you?

MRS. H: No indeed. I had no idea there was quite so much to
this whole timber-production business.

BESS: (LAUGHING) I guess, actually, I'm the one who ought to
be ashamed. After all I'm the Forest Ranger's wife
and I must say I had no full appreciation of all this
either.

MARY: And what about me? I ought to have known that the Pine
Cone National Forest has really gone to war, with all
the extra timber cutting that's taking place here
compared to other years.

JERRY: Don't forget, Mary, that timber production in all the
National Forests as a whole, - that is, the volume of
timber cut - was stepped up 70 percent above the
high 1939 level - it's the largest cut in national-
forest history.

MRS. H: I know this is against my own original argument, but
aren't you yourselves letting the forest be overcut
now, Mrs Robbins?

JIM: Well, let's take our own Pine Cone Forest right here. Last year, we exceeded our usual cutting budget by some twenty percent.

BESS: In other words, Jim, you allowed more timber to be cut than your plans normally provide?

JIM: Right. Our cutting plans, you see, Mrs. Hatcher, provide for so much timber to be cut each year so that there'll always be more timber, to keep the mills running on and on. Well, in years past, we didn't always cut that much.

MRS H: Then you actually had a true reserve you could cut into without affecting the future of the forest. Is that it?

JIM: Yes. and in some cases, like in forests where each Year's cut has been taken out in full and even more is being cut now, the plan is to make up the difference later on, when peace comes again and the cut can be logically reduced. Right now, a whale of a lot of timber in the National Forests is ear-marked for war. But the young, growing trees are being saved and taken care of..they're earmarked for peace.

MRS. H: Yes, I see, now. And I think I can understand why you're so bitter against unnecessary destruction and forest waste in many other places. You see, I have noticed how these loggers are carefully leaving the smaller trees here on this area. They're the guarantees for the future, for those days of peace we're hoping for.

JIM: Yes, in a way. We all hope of course that those trees will serve us during peace times, but who can say, right now, how long this war might last? Who can say right now that we may not need those trees , later on for this same war?

BESS: Oh, Jim. That's a terrible thought.

JIM: We've got to face facts, Bess. We got to realize that there's a lot more to this forest picture and shortages of some kinds of timber than some folks think. What I've been telling Mrs. Hatcher about the unnecessary and doggonned foolish and shortsighted hacking and slashing that's goin' on in so many forests -- it's not a pretty picture.

MARY: (GENTLY) Don't you think we ought to start back to town now? It's getting late. That is, unless Mrs. Hatcher still wants to stay on here?

JIM: There's one more step I'd like to make, Mrs. Hatcher, if you're willing.

MRS. H: I've an idea of what you must have in mind Mr. Robbins. But by all means, let's make that (FADE) stop.

PAUSE:

FADE IN SLIGHT WIND, SUSTAIN

MRS. H: SEeing this Beaver Creek out-over area tells more than anything you could say, Mr. Robbins. B-rr. It makes me shiver. It's so desolate and forlorn after all that activity back in the forest. And those rows on rows of dead stumps..

JERRY: Yeah. Like ghosts, aren't they? Ghosts of a proud forest that once was here. This forest was destroyed during the last war, Mrs. Hatcher.

JIM: That's right. And I think the answer to what you had in mind when you spoke at the Ladies' Club is right here, Mrs. Hatcher. If ordinary horse-sense had been put to use here, if only there'd been some control about the way this forest was cut, we'd still have timber here...timber we could've used for this war. The small trees they cut out of here for lumber weren't worth the labor that went into their cutting, then, but they'd be worth plenty today.

MRS. H: I'm reminded of..of the Plow that Broke the Plains..that story of mis-use of land that took place during the last war..I think I've seen enough, Mr. Robbins.

JIM: (SLOWLY) The Plow that Broke the Plains..Yes..and, pray God, something may be done about all our forests soon, so that after this war we won't be hearing about the Axe that ruined the land...

MUSICALE FINALE.

ANNOUNCER: In today's program, beginning the twelfth year of Uncle Sam's Forest Rangers we had with us: Harvey Hays, playing, as he has since this program started, the role of Ranger Jim Robbins; and, next in years of faithful service, Lucille Husting as Mary Halloway, the local schoolma'm; Katherine Card as Jim's wife, Bess; and Johnny Larkin as Assistant Ranger Jerry Quick. In honor of this occasion, we have a special guest today. The women of the country, particularly the organized women, are keenly interested in America's forest resources. Thousands of women have visited our National Forests to see conditions for themselves and have good forest practices explained to them, just as Ranger Robbins explained them today to Mrs. Hatcher. One of the organizations of women which has worked for many years on programs to keep forest lands productive is the National Society, Daughters of the American Revolution. We are glad to have with us Mrs. William H Pouch the President General of this Society. Mrs. Pouch.

MRS: POUCH:

The Daughters of the American Revolution have been preaching about the waste of timber resources as long as the United States Forest Service has. In fact, we've done a great deal of joint preaching on this subject. In 1940, the National Society was 50 years old. One of the ways we celebrated this red-letter day was by planting..in cooperation with the Forest Service..over 5 million young trees. We planted these trees to make productive land out of land that was producing nothing. We want these tree plantations..and you'll find at least one in nearly every State..to be living reminders that the Daughters of the American Revolution understand fully the potential value of natural resources to a strong Nation, and that we want to do all we can to prevent the waste of such resources.

The soundness of this policy of the Daughters has been emphasized a thousand fold by the war. Rear Admiral Woodward recently told lumberworkers that the United States Navy is fully as dependent today on the products of American lumber camps and sawmills as it was in the days of John Paul Jones.

The Army is said to use more lumber than steel. This lumber goes into barracks for our boys and boxes for lend-lease shipments. It makes gunstocks and airplanes. Altogether, the Army has about 800 uses for lumber.

(MORE)

MRS. POUCH CONTINUED:

We used to talk about thrift as though thrift were merely an individual matter. I am so glad that we are now talking about national thrift...like we talk about national health. It's a good sign. I believe it means that we are outgrowing some of the wasteful habits that characterized us as a young Nation. No where did these wasteful national habits stand out more glaringly than in the way we ripped through our forest resources. Today we have thrifty management on forest lands that the public owns..the National Forests, State Forests, and other public forest lands. The members of the National Society, Daughters of the American Revolution, under the directions of their National Chairman, Miss Emeline Street, have been actively engaged in carrying out the program for wartime fire prevention in the forests, as well as the planting of shelterbelts for prevention of soil erosion.

During the year 1941-42 over 60,000 trees have been set out in addition to the thousands which were placed on the acreages of the D. A. R. Penny Pine Forests, with a total expenditure in 29 States of \$69,284.54 for that year.

(MORE)

MRS POUCH CONTINUED:

Clubwomen should study our forest resource situation carefully, and be prepared to act intelligently on matters that affect national thrift in the use of forest land. Remember that wood is the raw material that may rank next to food in making the kind of world we want to live in, and that our boys are fighting to save.

CHICAGO ANNOUNCER: Thank you, Mrs. Pouch, Uncle Sam's Forest Rangers comes to you each week during the National Farm and Home Hour, as a network presentation with the cooperation of the Forest Service, United States Department of Agriculture.

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